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4/Response 2-6-03

CERTIFICATIC GE MAIENGINDER MICHEL SE SENDER SENDER

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Bahram Mechanic

09/839,331

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Serial No.:

Filed:

April 20, 2001

Title: TRANSIENT VOLTAGE SURGE

SUPPRESSOR

Group Art Unit:

2836

Examiner:

Lesley D. Morris

Docket No.:

43481.000002

RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION MAILED JANUARY 2, 2003

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BOX RESPONSE – NO FEE
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Dear Sir:

RESPONSE

This communication is in response to the Office Action of January 2, 2003. Applicant notes that the claims were rejected based only on the obviousness-type double patenting ground over the claims of commonly owned U.S. Patent No. 6,229,682.

Submitted herewith are a Terminal Disclaimer and a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) signed on behalf of Smart Power Systems, Inc., assignee of the present application and of U.S. Patent No. 6,229,682. In view of this, withdrawal of the obviousness-type double patenting rejection is respectfully requested.

Houston\1516910.1

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Also enclosed as an Appendix is a document setting forth the Claims in their present form, unchanged from those as originally filed. Since no other formal matters were noted in the January 2, Office Action, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Albert B. Kimball Jr., Registration No. 25,689

BRACEWELL & PATTERSON, L.L.P. 711 Louisiana, Suite 2900 Houston, Texas 77002 713/221-1377 Fax 713/221-2185